Privatisation of AI and IA

5881. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that plans are afoot to merge the two national airlines viz. Air India and Indian Airlines; and

(b) whether the idea of privatisation of these Airlines has been finally dropped or the merger is prelude to the privatisation scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NBAI AZAD): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present to merge Indian Airlines and Air India. Merger of the two airlines would require detailed examination and planning, which will take considerable time. With the restructuring of Air India and Indian Airlines into public limited companies, Air Inda Limited and Indian Airlines Limited would be able to invite fresh equity participation from their workers and employees and the public including financial institutions to meet their growth requirements. Disinvestment of Government quity is not envisaged.

Services of Cheffair catering

5882. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3095 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd December, 1993 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cheffair Flight Catering Service is a part and parcel of Hotel Corporation of India which is wholly incorporated subsidiary of Air India;

(b) whether the services renderd by the Cheffair Air Catering is essential for Air India flight operation;

(c) whether it is fact that the employees of Cheffair Flight Catering are not placed at par with their counter parts in Air India; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps have so far been taken or proposed to be taken to improve the service condition of employees of cheffair flight catering services to make at par with those of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Cheffair Flight Catering Services is a unit of Hotel Corporation of India, a public limited company, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Air India.

(b) Catering of a number of flights of Air India at Bombay and Delhi is entrusted, among others, to Cheffair Flight Catering Services.

(c) and (d) Cheffair Flight Catering Services is an independent unit of Hotel Corporation of India and its employees have an independent Union. The management of the Cheffair holds discussions with the representatives of the Union on the charter of demands submitted and signs agreements. The service conditions of the employees of this unit cannot be equated with the service conditions of employees of Air India as each organisation has its own set of service regulations for its employees.

मध्य प्रदेश में चकरभाटा स्थित हवाई अड्डा

5883. **श्री गोविन्द राम मिरी :** क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के बिलासपुर जिले में चकरभाटा कैंप में कोई हवाई अड्डा है; यदि हां, तो यह कितने वर्ष पुराना है तथा उसकी देख-रेख तथा रख-रखाव के लिए कौन जिम्मेदार है ;

(ख) क्या विगत में इस हवाई अड्डे से लोगों को विमानन सुविधाएं प्रदान की गई थी ;